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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Larissa Balakireva

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Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Title: MOLECULES INHIBITING HEPATITIS C VIRUS PROTEIN SYNTHESIS AND

METHOD FOR SCREENING SAME

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

A Listing of Claims begins on page 4 of this paper.

A Sequence Listing, pages 1-10, in both paper and computer readable forms is submitted herewith to be entered as part of the application.

Remarks appear on page 7 of this paper.